CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An electrically conductive paste comprising at least one conductive powder selected from copper powder, nickel powder, copper-nickel alloy powder, and mixtures thereof; a glass frit which is free of lead, cadmium and bismuth, and which has a softening point of 530 to 650°C, a coefficient of thermal expansion of 9.0 to 11.5 ppm/°C wherein the powder and glass frit are dispersed in an organic medium.

2. The conductive paste of claim 1, wherein the glass frit is a borosilicate alkaline earth glass containing, based on the weight of the oxides therein, 30 to 60% of BaO + SrO, 20 to 45% of B_2O_3 + ZnO + Na_2O, and 0 to 7% of Na_2O.

3. The conductive paste of any one of claims 1 or 2 containing 55.0-85 wt % inorganic solids, comprising powder and frit, wherein 5-20 wt % is glass frit.

4. The conductive paste of any one of Claims 1-3 wherein said organic medium comprises methyl methacrylate and butylcarbitolacetate.

5. The use of the conductive paste of any one of Claims 1-4 as a terminal electrode composition for multilayer capacitors.

6 A method of forming a terminal electrode comprising:

(a) forming the conductive paste of any one of Claims 1-4;

(b) coating the composition of (a) onto a terminal electrode-forming site of a multilayer capacitor; and

(c) firing the multilayer capacitor in (b) to form a finished terminal electrode.

7. A multilayer capacitor utilizing the conductive paste of any one of Claims 1-4.